

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 175488

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PO

SUBJECT: AZORES INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT

FOR AMBASSADOR AND CONSUL ONLY FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY
HARTMAN

1. YOUR RECENT REPORTS INDICATE GROWING SUPPORT
IN THE AZORES FOR BOTH THE IDEA AND INEVITABILITY
OF INDEPENDENCE. OUR POLICY TOWARD THE AZOREAN
SEPARATISTS REMAINS ONE OF TOTAL NEUTRALITY, AND I
KNOW THAT IN YOUR CONTACTS WITH THE FLA (AS WE HAVE WITH
FLA SUPPORTERS IN THE US) YOU HAVE EMPHASIZED OUR DESIRE
TO REMAIN UNINVOLVED.

2. AS THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN LISBON CONTINUES TO
DETERIORATE AND AS PROSPECTS FOR AZOREAN INDEPENDENCE
INCREASE, I THINK THAT WE MUST BE CAREFUL -- IN OUR

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CONTACTS WITH THE FLA AND FLA SUPPORTERS -- TO ASSURE

THAT WE ARE CONVEYING THE IDEA OF TRUE USG NEUTRALITY
AND THAT WE DO NOT INADVERTENTLY IMPLY ANY US OPPOSITION
TO THE PLANS OR OBJECTIVES OF THE INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT. KISSINGER

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